

SWRCB Term 15 Milestone 4 Report (Windsor Update)

The Town of Windsor is continuing implementation of Stage Two Water Shortage Reduction Measures as outlined in the Town's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and as passed by resolution on July 1, 2009. These short term conservation measures include: residential and commercial irrigations restrictions to achieve a 50% reduction in Town wide irrigation use; prohibitions on the use of water for new or replacement turf grass and for the filling of swimming pools; a water on request only requirement for restaurants; and continuing enforcement of the Town's existing water waste regulations. The Windsor Town Council will consider rescinding the water shortage declaration at its October 21st council meeting.

Town Staff continued to conduct water waste patrols throughout the month of September, issuing 137 written warnings for water waste or for irrigating outside of allowed days and times. No fines were levied in September for failure to correct identified problems.

Public outreach and education was ongoing in September through bi-monthly bill inserts, banners in prominent locations in Town, phone outreach to businesses, and a public access television slideshow. A graphic of the Town's water use continues to be maintained on the Town's website and has been updated to show this summer's water savings compared to the 25% conservation goal. The Town achieved a 20% reduction for the period of the Order.

Town staff continued its communication with the Airport Business Park management, Airport Area business owners, and their landscape maintenance providers to meet the Town's 50% reduction mandate for commercial irrigation. Staff contacted several businesses not meeting the goal, which helped identify several irrigation system malfunctions and/or reinforced the need for businesses to make immediate changes to scheduling practices as a condition for the continued provision of irrigation water service. The businesses that were contacted were very responsive to making the requested repairs and/or changes to irrigation schedules. Some businesses with increased water use had added new buildings or modified landscaping since the 2004 baseline year.

In addition to short term measures implemented, the Town continues to provide and have active participation in the following long term conservation programs:

- High efficiency toilet rebates
- High efficiency clothes washer rebates
- Water efficient landscape rebates for irrigation equipment upgrades
- Turf grass replacement rebates
- Water efficient technology rebates for businesses
- Residential water use assessments
- Business water audits
- Free water saving showerheads, faucet aerators, & hose nozzles
- Residential & commercial irrigation audits